

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A tendon and ligament support for a horse's fetlock joint having an anterior side and a posterior side comprising

a cannon bone-embracing collar,

a pastern bone-embracing collar,

means for securing the collars so as to embrace the horse's leg respectively above and below the fetlock joint,

connection means for providing articulation and separation between the two collars, wherein the connection means is adapted to provide limited ligament and/or tendon elongation under load, and the connection means comprising, in combination,

a pivot arrangement for providing articulation and separation between the two collars and

an essentially inelastic connector of high tensile strength connected to one or more points on each of said cannon bone-embracing collar and said pastern-bone-embracing collar arranged across the posterior side and centrally of the fetlock joint so as to limit fetlock joint movement within a predetermined range of pivot rotation.

22. (previously presented) A tendon and ligament support as claimed in claim 21, in which at least one of said collars further comprises a panel constructed from shock-absorbent composite materials adapted to provide protection to a horse's fore leg against over reach striking by the horse's hind leg.

23. (previously presented) A tendon and ligament support as claimed in claim 21, wherein the pivot arrangement is arranged to exert a substantially constant resistance to joint movement as the pivot arrangement rotates under downward pressure.

24. (previously presented) A tendon and ligament support as claimed in claim 21, wherein the pivot arrangement is arranged to exert no resistance to joint movement unless the pivot arrangement rotates beyond said predetermined range of pivot rotation.

25. (previously presented) A tendon and ligament support as claimed in claim 21, wherein the pivot arrangement is arranged to be locked in position so as to exert total resistance to joint movement in both flexion and extension when so required.

26. (previously presented) A tendon and ligament support as claimed in claim 21, wherein the pivot arrangement is arranged to exert progressively increasing resistance to joint movement as the pivot arrangement rotates under downward pressure.

27. (previously presented) A tendon and ligament support as claimed in claim 21, wherein the connection means includes adjustment means adapted to vary said predetermined range of pivot rotation.

28. (previously presented) A tendon and ligament support as claimed in claim 21, in which the pivot arrangement is adapted to accommodate limited lateral joint movement.

29. (previously presented) A tendon and ligament support as claimed in claim 21, in which the pivot arrangement includes one or more hinges.

30. (previously presented) A tendon and ligament support as claimed in claim 21, in which either said cannon bone-embracing collar or said pastern bone-embracing collar comprises air intake entrances facing to the front of the support, and comprises channels on the inside of the support arranged to allow air to pass from the intake entrances over and adjacent to the horse's leg from one part of the support to another, during forward motion of the horse.

31. (canceled)